

Message Text

SECRET

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46

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O P 091708Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4387

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

S E C R E T LONDON 12421

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, PLOS. GR, TU

SUBJECT: PROPOSED EC NINE DEMARCHE ON AEGEAN

REFERENCE: A) STATE 190362; B) LONDON 12039

1. GOODISON, HEAD OF FCO SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DEPARTMENT, INFORMED EMBOFF ON AUGUST 9 OF LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON AEGEAN SITUATION AS FOLLOWS. DUTCH FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL ON AUGUST 7 SAW KARAMANLIS WHO "BEAT HIM ABOUT THE HEAD." VAN DER STOEL THEREUPON SENT A LONG, EXCITED TELEGRAM TO THE REST OF THE NINE SAYING IN EFFECT, "WE MUST DO SOMETHING." FCO REPLIED TO VAN DER STOEL THAT WHILE HMG SEES NO POINT IN SUGGESTING TO ANKARA THAT THE TURKISH SEISMIC SHIP BE WITHDRAWN, HMG WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO DUTCH REPRESENTATIONS ON BEHALF OF THE EC-9 IN BOTH ATHENS AND ANKARA DESIGNED TO PERSUADE THE GREEKS AND TURKS TO RENEW TALKS ON THE SUBJECT. BRITISH HAVE NOW DECIDED IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA TO MAKE SUCH REPRESENTATIONS IN ANKARA SO THAT TURKISH GOVERNMENT CAN POINT TO INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE AN "IT MIGHT STOP THE GREEKS FROM DOING SOMETHING SILLY."

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2. COMMENT: BRITISH HAVE THUS CHANGED THEIR POSITION TO CONFORM MORE WITH THAT GIVEN BY USG TO VAN DER STOEL AS PER REFTEL A. WHILE WE HAVE NO REPORT FROM THE HAGUE OR THE DEPARTMENT AS TO THE REACTION OF VAN DER STOEL TO THE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE, WE GATHER FROM GOODISON'S LATEST VERSION THAT VAN DER STOEL IS ACTIVELY SUPPORTING OUR VIEWS IN EC NINE CONSULTATIONS.

ARMSTRONG

SECRET

NNN

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